

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force its stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. When corporations own large numbers of media stations these corporations take possession of the information that our society needs to make decisions. This is particularly dangerous to a democratic society during our elections, for the media can and is recognized as having determined percent points of the vote... in elections where these percentage points determine the election.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the corporations' bottom lines and less of what we need for our democracy. Extensive corporate control of our media airways is not in the public interest, particularly when our public airways are controlled to provide lop-sided disinformation just before our national elections.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. Sinclair's directive to air a pack of lies in "Stolen Honor" just before the election is outrageous and an abuse of its license and our public airways.

I request a that the FCC direct Sinclair Broadcasting to prohibit the showing of "Stolen Honor" during the four weeks prior to the national election, to investigate the basis and financial and political interests involved in the Sinclair's directive to air this misdocumentary, and the convene a hearing to withdraw Sinclair Broadcasting's license to use our public airways.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,
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